

**CITY OF FONTANA
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 23, 2009**

The City of Fontana Parks and Recreation Commission and Staff met for a workshop at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 23, 2009, in the Jessie Turner Health and Fitness Community Center, 15556 Summit Avenue, Fontana, California, prior to the regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to review the agenda. The workshop was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Chairperson Baker, Commissioners Burgo, Hall, and Vaquera were present.

The regular meeting of the City of Fontana Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, July 23, 2009, in the Jessie Turner Health and Fitness Community Center, 15556 Summit Avenue, Fontana, California. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Commissioner Baker, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by Commissioner Tigner and an Invocation given by Commissioner Perron.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chairperson Baker, Commissioners Burgo, Hall, Perron, Tigner and Vaquera

Absent: Commissioner Thomas

Staff Present: Public Works Manager Dan West; Community Services Manager Frances Hernandez, Community Services Manager Kyla Brown; Parks and Landscape Supervisor Luis Villalobos; Community Services Supervisor, Bianca Gutierrez; Cheryl Salazar, Community Services Coordinator; Jessica Gandara, Community Services Coordinator; City Clerk Tonia Lewis; Commission Secretary Ysela Aguirre

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH:

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION TO RECOGNIZE JENNIFER HUNT AS THE JUNE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH.

JENNIFER HUNT

Jennifer Hunt is once again being recognized for her outstanding contributions to the City of Fontana and Community Services Department. For the past three months, Jennifer has been filling the role of Acting Community Services Manager, fulfilling both her normal job responsibilities and taking on the responsibilities of the Community Programs Manager while Kyla Brown was on maternity leave. Jennifer eagerly took on the challenge and proved to be an outstanding leader in her role as manager.

Jennifer's positive attitude and initiative have resulted in her being recognized as an outstanding professional numerous times. She continues to raise the bar related to arts and culture related programs here in Fontana. The City of Fontana continues to benefit from her expertise and quality work. Jennifer was thanked for her contributions over the past three months.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION TO RECOGNIZE ALONDRA BANUELOS AND MARIA LOPEZ AS THE JUNE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT PART-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH.

ALONDRA BANUELOS

Alondra Banuelos has been with the City of Fontana's Jack Bulik Teen Center for just under a year as a Community Services Assistant I. Since Alondra has been employed with the City, she has demonstrated a constant willingness to go above and beyond her normal scope of work. She recently lead the first meeting of the Teen Center's VIP program which is a volunteer internship program for teens who wish to one day obtain employment with the City of Fontana.

Alondra serves as the Teen Center's Cheerleading coach and is one of the staff advisor's for the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council. Alondra's always pleasant attitude is a great asset to the City of Fontana and her commitment to bettering the lives of teens is evident in her individual relationship with each member of the Teen Center Program. Thank you Alondra for your dedication and we are proud to recognize you as an employee of the month.

MARIA LOPEZ

Maria Lopez has been with the city for quite some time now and she continues to be as fresh and happy as when she was first hired. She loves her job more than anything and jumps at every opportunity she gets to help out in other areas and work wherever she can.

Maria is energetic, amazingly helpful, courteous, and an absolute pleasure to be around. Her energy is infectious. In the past few months, Maria has assisted with Tiny Tots at the Jessie Turner Center, the Fontana Middle School After School Program, the Jack Bulik Teen Center, Mobile Recreation, and has been a tremendous help with various office assignments that keep our organization running smoothly. Maria was thanked for her outstanding contributions!

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS:

NONE

CONSENT CALENDAR:

- A. Approve minutes of the June 25, 2009, Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.
- B. Accept Staff Reports

- Community Services Department – Garth Nelson, Community Services Director
- Parks & Landscape Division – Dan West, Public Works Manager

Motion made by Commissioner Tigner, seconded by Commissioner Perron, to accept the Consent Calendar as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. PARK DEVELOPMENT UPDATE ORAL REPORT – LUIS VILLALOBOS, PARK DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Coordinator Villalobos reported on the Grand Opening of Benjamin Fernandez Park on Friday, June 26, 2009, at 12:00 p.m. Fernandez Park is located at Miller and Locust. The park features a playground, meandering sidewalk, parking, and a plaque dedicated to Benjamin Fernandez. Over 600 attended the event, only 150 were expected. County Supervisor Gonzalez attended. It was very gratifying to see support of the community that has taken ownership of the park and it is being well taken care of.

Work has been done at Fontana Park. The fence has been moved back, concrete sidewalks have been completed, and benches have been installed. Drinking fountains will be installed within the next week. The park was enlarged to accommodate the community.

Motion made by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Vaquera, to accept the report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

B. SPECIAL EVENTS UPDATE – BIANCA GUTIERREZ, COMMUNITY SERVICES SUPERVISOR

Community Services Supervisor, Rob Bock, reviewed recent events which occurred during the month of June:

- Cruise Night on June 5, with 2,000 participants and car show enthusiasts,, 300 hotrods and low riders and over 20 food and craft vendors; the band “Suave” played top 40’s to Latin music. DJ Gill and DJ Albert added musical entertainment throughout the event. The Art Depot hosted their monthly Fusion Friday.
- 54th Annual Fontana Days Run on June 6, with 1,716 participants in the Children’s Half Marathon, 5K Family Fitness Walk/Run, 5K Run, 5K Race Walk, and Half Marathon Run. All finishing participants received a finisher’s medal, goodie bag, and hospitality refreshments.
- County Health and Safety Fair on June 13 at Jack Bulik Park. This free event was a huge success. Over 40 non-profit organizations came out to offer free information to over 2,000 community members. The event promoted car seat safety and bicycle helmet safety by providing free replacements for those that were no longer safe for use. There was a BMX demonstration, dental, blood and BMI screenings.

- Concerts in the Park on June 18 at Miller Park Amphitheater. Approximately 500 people attended. The band “3rd Degree” performed upbeat and fun music that included blues, funk and soul. There were hands on arts and extended pool hours.
- Concerts in the Park on June 25 at Miller Amphitheater. Approximately 500 people attended. The band “American Wranglers”, a four piece band, performed.
- Dive-In Movies on June 19 at Heritage Pool. The first Dive-In Movie of the 2009 season was Mr. Magorium’s Wonder Emporium. Over 200 Fontana community members participated.
- Dive-In Movies on June 26 at Heritage Pool. The movie, Meet the Robinsons, sold out by 6:45. Residents lined up an hour early to get in.
- Dive-In Movies rerun on June 20 at Fontana Park Aquatics Center. The cold weather kept some away.
- Dive-In Movies rerun on June 27 at Fontana Park Aquatics Center. The weather was back to normal with warm temperatures and the event was well received.
- The Benjamin Fernandez Park Grand Opening was held on June 26. Over 600 Fontana community members celebrated the new park. It was very well received.

Supervisor Bock also provided information on upcoming summer events:

- Cruise Night/Fusion Friday on August 7 on Spring Street.
- Variety Nights on August 4 at Sycamore Hills Park and August 11 at Koehler Park.
- Family Fun Nights on August 5 at Veterans Park West and August 12 at Oak Park.
- Summer Concert Series at Miller Park Amphitheater, “Undercover” performing ‘80’s and ‘90’s music on August 6; “Yari More” performing Latin/Salsa on August 13; and local churches performing Gospel Music on August 20
- Dive-In Movie Night at Heritage Pool. The movies, Aladdin on Friday, August 7, and Peter Pan on Friday, August 14
- Dive-In Movie Reruns at Fontana Park Aquatic Center, the movies, The Jetsons, on August 1, and Aladdin on August 8

Motion made by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Perron, to accept the report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. OPERATION SPLASH REPORT – CHERYL SALAZAR

Operation Splash was a \$50,000 grant received from Kaiser Permanente in Fontana that provided aquatics education. Drowning is one of the leading causes of death. Learning to swim is a very important life skill. Through Operation Splash, the City of

Fontana, 1,000 low income participants were given swim lessons over the year. All swim lessons were given by water safety instructors that were certified through the American Red Cross. The targeted population was one that would not be able to otherwise afford swim lessons due to financial hardship or other financial constraints.

The effectiveness of the instruction was measured by surveys given to participants, the parents of minors, and the instructors at the conclusion of each session. Information that can be used for the renewal application of the grant.

Funds were also used purchase Automated External Defibrillators for all City pool sites. These electronic devices are wall mounted with alarms linked to an alarm company that will summon EMS when it is used. They have not been needed, but lifeguards are ready and trained to use them if necessary. These are successful programs during tough economic times and will be offered into the fall at various pools.

Motion made by Commissioner Tigner, seconded by Commissioner Hall, to accept the report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

B. SPORTS UPDATE – JESSICA GANDARA, COMMUNITY SERVICES COORDINATOR

The mission of the Sports Division is to provide quality, safe fun and recreational experiences. The goal is to create a positive sports culture in which coaches, parents, fans, officials and athletes work together to achieve our mission. The City partners with the Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation (SMAF) Inland Valley's Association. It governs the league and tournament play. The Sports Division stresses the sportsmanship factor to all coaches, parents and athletes. Good sportsmanship is everyone's responsibility. Some of the benefits of participating in sports programs include being introduced to various sports, having fun, building character, sportsmanship and team work. The City offers divisions in Pee Wee (4-7), Youth (8-13), Teen (14-17), and Adults (18+).

The Pee Wee Programs offers a six week season. No score kept nor standings posted and everyone wins.

The Youth and Teen Programs offer an eight week season that concludes with a single elimination playoff tournament with a consolation bracket.

The Adult Sports Programs offers nine-week regular seasons followed by playoffs. All teams advance to the single elimination playoffs.

This year, in the Pee Wee division, 450 athletes participated in basketball at two middle schools and at Fontana Park. The football program had 240 athletes at McDermott,

Southridge and Coyote Canyon parks. T-Ball and soccer both had 500 athletes playing at six different city parks.

The Youth basketball program saw the biggest numbers this year. Six-hundred participants played at seven different locations. Flag football and roller hockey had 150 athletes playing at four different city parks. The track and field program had 90 athletes participating at Fontana and Summit high schools.

Teen basketball was played at Wayne Ruble Middle School and Fontana Park with 180 participants.

In the Adult division, basketball had 52 teams at the Jessie Turner Center and Bloomington Christian High School. Softball had 67 team participating at Southridge and Coyote Canyon parks. Soccer had 64 teams participating at Ralph M. Lewis Sports Complex. Volleyball had four teams participating at the Jessie Turner Center.

The City of Fontana allocated 60 athletic fields to soccer, football, baseball, and softball leagues. Nineteen Fontana parks and Fontana Unified School District facilities were used in the allocation. Six soccer organizations utilize the fields with over 2,500 participants. Four football leagues are allocated fields for almost 1,000 participants. Five baseball and softball leagues use the City of Fontana fields for over 1,400 athletes.

The next allocation meeting for the following winter season is scheduled for November 12, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. at the Jessie Turner Health and Fitness Center.

This year, the Sports team worked hard to host many events for the SMAF Inland Valley's Association. Our sports team hosted the flag football tournament, a youth basketball tournament, the school of sports management workshop, the Aquafina pitch hit and run, and also chaired the track and field championships. The sports team also developed the Association website.

In 2009, the City of Fontana Sports Division introduced a few new programs to participants. They started offering hockey pick up games on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Fontana Park in hopes of implementing an adult hockey program. The Sports Zone offers open sports play at Fontana Park Pavilion, Monday through Friday, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.

The Sports Division is currently in the middle of the four week summer sports camp at Fontana Park. The program has been maxed out with 80 kids. They have been playing non-traditional sports such as dodge ball, softball, kickball and steal the bacon. We have also had a good time at the aquatic center, having presentations from Healthy Fontana and the Fontana Fire Department and a reading of the Cat in the Hat from former NFL player Kitrick Taylor.

This year, the Youth basketball program partnered with the Los Angeles Clippers. We had new uniforms and had a clinic for the athletes on the floor of the Staples Center before enjoying an NBA game.

Motion made by Commissioner Burgo, seconded by Commissioner Perron, to accept the report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

Manager West –No Comment.

Director Nelson – Encouraged viewers on KFON to participate in many activities being offered this summer at all of our community and park systems, there are opportunities for families, children, and seniors. Continue having a great summer and come out and participate in a healthy and vibrant Fontana. If interested, contact the Community Services department at (909) 428-8360.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Manager Brown – Thanked Jennifer Hunt for covering for her. She was able to rest easy and enjoy her time with her children because Jennifer did a good job. She thanked the Public Works team and Sean Burgo for the work done at the Cypress Community Center upgrades. The floor and painting has been redone. The seniors utilizing the facility love it and are very grateful.

Manager Hernandez - Invited all of Commissioners to city pools on Saturday to enjoy the summer exhibition. Different activities will be held at various pools. Fontana parks will feature a scuba diving class. The instructor will have all the gear and residents could come out to try it on Saturday from 12:00 to 4:30 p.m.

She encouraged residents to come out to pools to cool off. Pools are open from 12:00 to 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. With schools starting soon, the pool schedules will be adjusted to accommodate school openings. Pools will be open right after school. There is one more week of sports camp that is not filled, it is from August 3-6, approximately 15 spaces available. She encouraged parents to get their kids to Join and get involved.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Burgo – No comments.

Commissioner Vaquera – He thanked the Sports staff, Rafael, Hector and the rest of the staff for the event at Don Day. It was a great event and he always try to tell people to attend the events. He received lots of positive feedback from people that attended. He reminded elementary and middle school students to take advantage of the events being offered before going back to school.

Commissioner Tigner - No comments.

Commissioner Perron - No comments.

Commissioner Hall -No comments.

Commissioner Baker – He and his wife have personally enjoyed some of programs at Jessie Turner Community Center. He was really enjoying it and wants to let everyone know that the City has some great stuff. He invited everyone to come on by take a look at what we got. He also had the opportunity to look into some of our pools when we have activities going on, especially at the Aquatics center where we have the Saturday night reruns that are very well attended. He encouraged folks with young ones looking for something to do on a Saturday to come on out and see a good movie and let the kids have a good time in the pool.

ADJOURNMENT:

By consensus, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. to the August 27, 2009, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Jessie Turner Health and Fitness Center. Please call the City Clerk's Office at 909.350-7200, if you are unable to attend the meeting.

Ysela Aguirre
Commission Secretary

Robert Baker
Chairperson